

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, The state of South Dakota is the home of Rudolph (Rudy) Benson, and we are richer because Rudy lives among us; and,

Whereas, Birthdays commemorate the first day of our lives, and we celebrate the birthdays of those we love, as we recognize the joys and sorrows we have shared, the strength we have gained from the obstacles and hardships we have conquered, and the small daily pleasures life offers; and,

Whereas, Rudy was born on a farm north of Crooks, South Dakota, on September 14, 1913, to Hjalmar and Christina Benson; and,

Whereas, At the age of 28, Rudy enlisted in the army and served during World War II in Europe. During his service, he was called the "Dakota Kid" and was decorated by the King of Belgium following the Battle of the Bulge; and,

Whereas, Rudy married Lois Miller on May 30, 1947, and to this union four children were born. They were further blessed with five grandchildren and one great-grandchild; and,

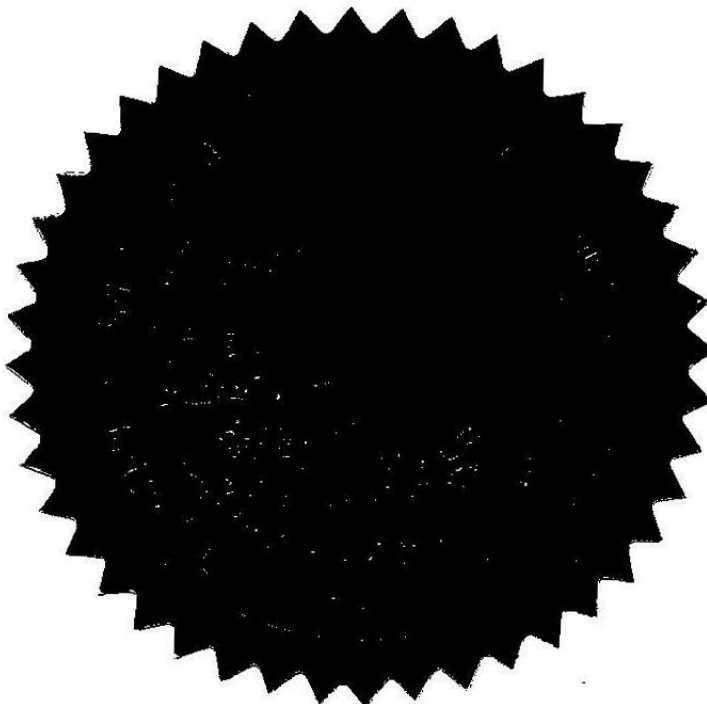
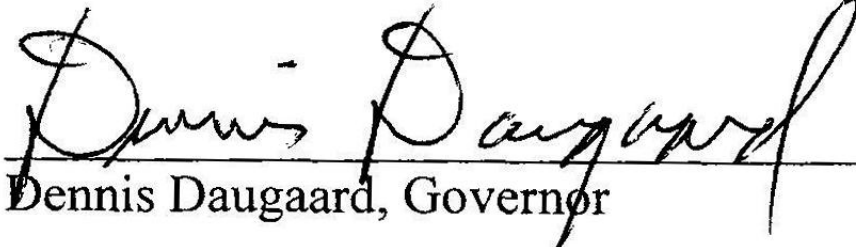
Whereas, Rudy will observe his 100th Birthday with all the good wishes, fanfare, and celebration such a milestone warrants, as his family and friends gather to honor him and celebrate his life and the camaraderie of the day; and it is fitting and proper for the governor to make note of this milestone in the life of a man who has lived an exemplary life for all to emulate:

Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim September 14, 2013, as


RUDY BENSON DAY

in South Dakota, and I join his family and friends in wishing him a very happy birthday, good health, and great happiness.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Tenth Day of September in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Thirteen.



Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:


Jason M. Gam, Secretary of State